

Focus on 5th



News and Events in the 5th Grade
April 18, 2011
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Important Dates

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| Apr 19 | Social Studies Poster Due/Presentations Begin |
| Apr 21 | Institute Day - No School |
| Apr 22 | No School |
| Apr 26 | Field Trip to Robert Crown |
| Apr 26 | Spelling Bee Final Round |
| Apr 27 | Final Novel Project Due |

Dear Families,

As we approach the end of the year there are many exciting events that students have the privilege of participating in. One of these events is the pool party at the beginning of June. This is a guildler field trip and students must have 400 guilders in order to attend. However, we have emphasized with all students that our expectations regarding behavior and homework completion have not changed. Significant behavior incidents or a decline in academics may result in loss of privileges (including attendance at the pool party) regardless of guildler eligibility.

When you first enrolled your child in District 97, you provided several documents that verified your residency in Oak Park and your child's eligibility to attend our schools. We are asking parents/guardians of all current students to participate in this important process again to ensure that we continue to provide the children of this community with a quality education in accordance with state law and district policy. Letters went out earlier this week about the district's re-registration program. Each family will be required to come in to verify residency. Ms. Krikau and Ms. O'Malley will be taking care of this for Holmes School. Please direct any questions to them. Holmes re-registration will be on the following dates:

April 20: 7am - 9 am
April 21: 8am - 1pm
April 27: 5pm - 7 pm

Student Council is sponsoring a spring food drive during the month of April. There will be collection boxes in each classroom. Your donations will help stock the Oak Park and River Forest Food Pantry. In addition to non-perishable food items, the Food Pantry will also accept monetary donations. Working with their hunger relief partners, the Food Pantry can purchase food at a dramatic discount. A typical food allotment costs \$63 at a retail grocery store, while the Pantry can purchase the same items at a cost of only \$5.41. We hope that you will give generously to this worthy local cause.

SPECIALS

Spanish

Students have begun to learn a new song for the completion ceremony with lyrics in both English and Spanish! You can hear the song on the Spanish blog.

<http://mpoleski.blogspot.com/p/quintofifth.html>



Reading/Literature

This week, students reading *The Breadwinner* will examine the changes various characters in the novel went through during the novel. Students reading *Under the Blood Red Sun* will focus on how war affects friendships/relationships. Due to the short week, students will take a comprehension assessment on the final chapters of their novels on Wednesday.

Students will present their Final Novel Projects to their classmates on **Wednesday, April 27th**. Students should also return their novels to school by Friday, April 29th. If students have lost their novels, they will be responsible for

paying a fine.

We will do one more novel study to finish out the year. This time students will choose which novel they would like to read from a list of 5 novels.

Math

In math, we continue to work on algebra. This week we will be working on representing rates with rules, tables and graphs. At the end of the month, students will begin working on a project in which they decide how to spend one million dollars. We will need to determine the costs of items, so please save your Sunday paper ads (cars, electronics, real estate, vacation trips, clothing) and have your child bring them in to school.

Science

This week, we will be learning about the kidneys and the immune system. Next week, we will be starting our unit on the reproductive system. Along with learning about it in class, we will be taking a field trip to the Robert Crown Center for Health Education on April 26th. Permission slips went home last week and are due this Wednesday along with \$8.

Social Studies

Students will present posters to the class beginning **Tuesday, April 19** and will explain their topic. Civil War tests will be returned Wednesday.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack**

<http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

Ms. Kraft
fkraft@op97.org

Ms. Yigzaw
syigzaw@op97.org

Ms. Manuel
mmanuel@op97.org

Ms. Peterson
apeterson@op97.org